

Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. No Claims have been amended. Claims 2, 17, and 24 have previously been canceled. Claims 31 and 32 have been added as New. Therefore, claims 1, 3-16, 18-23 and 25-32 are now presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Chen in view of Lodha and Conner

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-6, 9-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21-23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,975,638 B1 ("Chen") in view of Lodha, U.S. Patent No. 7,330,430 B2 ("Lodha") and Conner et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,039,061 B2 ("Conner").

As mentioned previously, Claim 1, for example, refers to "classifying each packet into... flow bundles based on the packet's destination and **path through the switch fabric...**"

The Examiner cites Chen at Col. 7, lines 29-45, but this section does not mention the path through the switch fabric. Accordingly, the references do not render this feature obvious.

Claim 1 further refers to "queuing each mapped packet into the respective mapped queue... based on the flow bundle..."

The Examiner cites Conner at Col. 7, lines 7-11. Here Connor recites, "since the destination MAC address will be identical for all packets corresponding to a common flow, all packets from the flow will be queued in the same transmit queue...." Connor

discusses MAC address and priority as bases for queuing packets. Applicants do not see any suggestion that path through the switch fabric be used as a basis.

Since none of the references even in combination relate to using the path through the switch fabric for queuing packets, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Chen, Lodha and Conner in view of Hooman

The Examiner has rejected claims 3, 14, 20 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen, Lodha and Conner in view of Hooman, U.S. Patent No. 7,155,716 B2 (“Hooman”).

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Chen, Lodha and Conner in view of Duffield

The Examiner has rejected claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen, Lodha and Conner in view of Duffield, U.S. Patent No. 6,452,933 (“Duffield”).

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

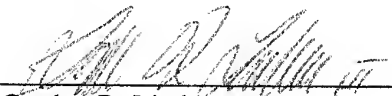
Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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